



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8
R: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer
Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8
E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

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Deputy Martin Browne, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 56702/21

To ask the Minister for Health his views on developing an entirety of life pathway for survivors of strokes; the work that has been carried out in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Browne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Stroke on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Stroke is a chronic illness and the majority of people living with stroke, or 'stroke survivors', have some degree of physical or cognitive impairment on discharge from hospital, requiring ongoing treatment and therapy. In addition, many of the risk factors and lifestyle habits that contributed to a person's risk of stroke need ongoing treatment and active management.

It is important that, to realise as full a return to life as possible, that a person after stroke, their carers and families, have ongoing access to appropriate specialist treatment and supports, including vocational training, where required. These supports need to be both responsive and adaptive to patients' changing life circumstances.

Such 'entirety of life' pathway for stroke survivors, as outlined comprehensively in the European Stroke Organisation's "Stroke Action Plan for Europe (SAP-E)", is an ambition of the National Clinical Programme for Stroke of the HSE. Stage One of this ambition in Ireland is the adoption and implementation of the National Stroke Strategy 2021-2026.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager